

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /036 W
-----027673 010516Z /15

R 312308Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8240

AMCONSUL TORONTO

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CA

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF US AIR TAXIS
OPERATING INTO NORTHWEST ONTARIO

REFS: (A) STATE 182979; (B) OTTAWA 3521

1. WE WENT OVER INFORMATION REFTEL (A) WITH EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS AVIATION DESK OFFICER (GOMBAY) STRESSING POINT
PARA 3 THAT CAB INTENDS TO HOLD OFF ON ANY ACTION UNTIL
AUG. 10, AWAITING CANADIAN DECISION.

2. AFTER REVIEWING STATUS OF ISSUE WITH AIR TRANSPORT
COMMITTEE (ATC), GOMBAY INFORMED US THAT REPLIES FROM
INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACTED IN ATC STUDY OF QUESTION
(PARA 4, REF B) ARE COMING IN AND ALL ARE EXPECTED TO BE
RECEIVED BY END OF JULY. INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL THEN
BE CONSIDERED BY ATC IN REACHING DECISION ON ANY CHANGES
TO PRESENT SITUATION AFFECTING US OPERATORS. THAT DECISION
WILL PROBABLY BE MADE BY ATC DURING WEEK OF AUGUST 21.

3. GOMBAY SUGGESTED THAT CAB MIGHT WISH TO DEFER ACTION ON
ANY STEPS TO IMPOSE COUNTERVAILING REQUIREMENTS AGAINST
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CANADIAN OPERATORS FOR SHORT TIME TO AWAIT ATC DECISION
SINCE THAT DECISION NOW SO NEAR. WE POINTED OUT THAT US
CONSIDERS PROBLEM HAS BEEN UNRESOLVED FOR OVER FOUR YEARS
AND ACTION BY CANADIANS OR, FAILING THAT, BY US TO CORRECT
THE SITUATION IS LONG OVERDUE. THEREFORE, IT WOULD BE
DIFFICULT TO DEFER US COUNTERACTION MUCH LONGER.

4. COMMENT: IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO JUDGE HOW ATC WILL DECIDE ON THIS QUESTION OR EVEN IF WE CAN COUNT ON A DECISION BY END OF AUGUST. NONETHELESS, IN RESPONSE TO OUR DEMARCHE IN JANUARY, CANADIANS HAVE REOPENED CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER AND, ACCORDING TO EXTAFF, NOW SEEM CLOSE TO MAKING A DECISION. THEREFORE, IT WOULD APPEAR TO EMBASSY THAT FURTHER TWO-WEEK DELAY IN INSTITUTING US COUNTERACTION COULD AVOID UNNECESSARY CONFRONTATION OVER THIS MATTER WHEN THERE IS AT LEAST SOME POSSIBILITY IT WILL BE RESOLVED IN MANNER SATISFACTORY TO US OPERATORS. IF ATC DECISION BY END OF AUGUST IS NOT SATISFACTORY, OR IF THERE ARE FURTHER DELAYS IN REACHING DECISION, CAB COULD, AT END OF AUGUST, INSTITUTE WHATEVER CORRECTIVE STEPS SEEM APPROPRIATE. DUEMLING

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